

Zarina,

DESCRIPTIVE:

First, this is a *paragraph* assignment, not an essay assignment. The final product should be a single paragraph; therefore, you have lots of cutting and deleting to do to turn this draft into a good paragraph. Because this is a descriptive paragraph, you should focus it on telling the story of an event or memory or possibly on describing a person, something special about that person that readers can learn from. I think you should focus on your interaction with Christina and telling her story of adoption—focus on describing her, her demeanor, her facial features, how she spoke when she talked to you and told you her story, etc.—instead of focusing on the story of how you broke the “rules” to help her. Your topic sentence, then, would have to make some kind of statement or observation or conclusion about Christina, perhaps something you came to believe about her as a person or the dominant impression you had after meeting her and learning about her troubles.

EXPOISITORY:

You have a good, clear structure and main point in this paragraph, and you do a pretty good job of explaining your ideas up to about the last third of your draft. The last point—people who help for “no reason”—seems like the most important one and therefore should receive more attention. When you revise, focus on explaining this group of people in a bit more detail. I also think your topic sentence should say more than just that there are several “groups” of people who help; you should add something to this, like there are many groups of people who help others for certain reasons, but those who help with no motivation or reason at all are the kind of people we should strive to be.